

tested their mettle and served as a guiding force leading them to a 31–6 record for this season.

The Greeneville Greene Devils opened the state tournament by leading the Bolivar Central Tigers of Hardeman County for all but 1 :53 seconds of the game which ended in a 61–58 victory for Greeneville. The Greene Devils then faced the Upperman Bees of Putnam County in the semifinals. Upperman proved to be a worthy opponent claiming the lead for over half of the game, but the Greene Devils persevered and came out on top 47–41. The only thing standing in their way of overall victory was the 25–1 Jackson South Side Hawks of Jackson, TN. Greeneville led for most of the game, but the Hawks fought their way to a one-point lead with just 4:00 minutes left. With ice in their veins, however, the Greene Devils regained the lead and never looked back ending with a 47–46 victory. I am so very proud of these young men and their coaches.

Winning a state championship is a monumental accomplishment and is a testament to their commitment to their mission statement which is to “embody the principles and practices of a community-minded, championship basketball program by: utilizing gifts and influence, emphasizing other-centeredness, and developing athleticism and basketball skill.” I commend these young men, their excellent coaching staff and the statisticians and videographers who support them on this well-deserved title. I wish them equal success in their future athletic and academic pursuits.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the Greeneville High School Greene Devils on winning the 2A State Championship and representing Tennessee’s First Congressional District with such distinction. I am proud to represent these students and wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

HONORING MRS. JUDY HUDSON
BLAND

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 5, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Judy Hudson Bland.

Judy Bland moved to Quitman County at the age of five with her parents, Floyd and Christine Hudson and her three older brothers. She was educated from first through twelfth grade in Marks. Upon high school graduation, she attended the University of Mississippi on a journalism scholarship her freshman year.

In the spring of 1963, she married Johnny Bland, who had signed a contract with the Boston Red Sox and traveled with him to play at various locations in their farm system. After an eye infection ended his baseball career, he began a new one as a banker with First Security Bank at the Marks Branch. They brought their young family to Marks; a son, Kevin Bland, and daughter, Kimberly Bland (Wells), who were both educated in Marks; both received associate degrees from Northwest Community College and B.S. degrees; Kevin, from Mississippi State and Kimberly, from Delta State. These two children, their spouses

and her grandchildren have been a constant source of joy, pride and inspiration as a part of her daily life.

Bland had obtained her B.S. degree at the University of Memphis and worked for several years in the Memphis City School System, so in 1977, she returned to her teaching career, one that included a variety of afterschool programs which exposed the students in Quitman County to new technology and gave them opportunities to volunteer for worthwhile projects, such as participating in the relief efforts after Hurricane Katrina. In 1992, she was honored to receive recognition as “Teacher of the Year” at Quitman County High School. She was also often called upon to interview prospective teachers at recruiting events on college campuses.

After her retirement in 2004, she continued the spirit of volunteerism. Whenever she saw a need, she offered to do what she could to fill it and help those in need lift themselves above their disadvantages. She helped patients at DePorres Rural Health Clinic who could not afford their medicine apply to the pharmaceutical companies for free or at a discounted price. Working with the Community Foundation of Northwest Mississippi, she created a pilot program for Head Start to educate the children on eating nutritious food and to encourage their family members to eat healthy, as well. Working with the local non-profit, Youth Opportunities Unlimited, she supervised youth on educational fieldtrips; helped students learn GIS/GPS technology and to map the condemned buildings in Quitman County that should be cleared and used for environmental friendly projects; prepared yard signs with house numbers to improve 911 accuracy; delivered Emergency Kits to elderly residents in the county; helped open a fitness center that welcomed all area residents; and conducted afterschool workshops for students on topics, such as financial literacy, entrepreneurship, and screen printing. Working with the Marks Project, a local non-profit formed in 2017, she has been instrumental in providing playground equipment, an outdoor fitness trail, and an outstanding football field for countywide youth in the City of Marks Park; providing an excellent reading program for Pre-K, a Saturday tutoring/recreation program for middle school students, conducted on the campus at the University of Mississippi’s School of Education, and ACT Prep Boot Camps at the high school, all in the Quitman County School District; and securing partnerships with both Northwest and Coahoma Community College to provide free job training to Quitman and its surrounding counties.

Bland has served on numerous boards in Quitman County and north Mississippi, including the board of directors of DePorres Delta Ministries, Youth Opportunities Unlimited, and the Marks Project, as well as the Advisory Board of the Community Foundation of Northwest Mississippi and the Board of Trustees of Northwest Mississippi Community College.

She has won several awards in recent years, such as the 2010 President’s Volunteer Service Award, the 2013 Quitman County Alumni Scholarship Gala Award, the Community Foundation of Northwest Mississippi’s 2019 Community Star Award, Margaret Maddox Woman of the Year and the 2020 Mule Train Historical Society Woman of the Year.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Judy Bland for her dedication to the teaching profession and her untiring efforts of volunteerism,

BREANNE ELIZABETH RICHARDS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 5, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Breanne Elizabeth Richards for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Breanne Elizabeth Richards is a student at Arvada K–8 and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Breanne Elizabeth Richards is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Breanne Elizabeth Richards for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

HONORING MICHAEL FINNEY’S
30TH ANNIVERSARY WITH ABC7
NEWS BAY AREA

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 5, 2021

Mr. DeSAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of Michael Finney as he celebrates his 30th anniversary with ABC7 News Bay Area.

Michael’s interest in journalism began as a child. While attending Ray Lyman Wilbur Junior High School in Palo Alto, California, Michael took a journalism class in which he did a story on bike thefts. His story contributed to the school’s decision to build a fence to prevent any further thefts. Michael later graduated from California State University, Chico and went on to pursue a career in journalism. He worked at television stations in Idaho, Bakersfield, and San Diego before returning to the Bay Area.

Michael joined ABC7 News in 1991 and has since become known for his “7 On Your Side,” segments, which focus on consumer advocacy. The segments highlight Michael’s investigations into consumer complaints including faulty products, suspicious business practices, and industry problems. Through this work, Michael has helped return millions of dollars to consumers and earned the trust and respect of the community.

Michael’s work has not only made him a household name in the Bay Area, but has also earned him numerous accolades for his work in broadcast journalism. He has won an Emmy from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences and a Golden Mike, in addition